



Disciples of the Way Ministries

A mission of the Lutheran Church Missouri-Synod



Wednesday Arabic Bible Study

Engaging the World Around Us In the Word of Christ

Recently, a missionary friend brought Disciples of the Way some Bibles in the Arabic language that speak to the needs of Muslims who are open to learning more about Jesus as revealed in the Christian Scriptures. These Bibles have been met with much enthusiasm and curiosity by our refugee neighbors from all nations here in Dallas at Vickery Meadow, the home of 35,000+ refugees. In order to continue growing the Kingdom of God and placing the Word of Christ into their hands, we humbly and urgently are asking for more copies. The original Bibles received were published overseas; DOW is now working to print and publish these Bibles here in the US.

DOW prayerfully asks for your help to ensure there is a Bible for every Arabic-speaking person who expresses interest in learning more about Christ. While there are apps available that have Arabic translations, Muslims believe that the Word became a book (the holy Qur'an) and dwelt among them. Therefore they need a physical book (the Bible) to communicate the authenticity of Christ as the Word of God who dwelt among us in the flesh. As DOW

seeks to "make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19), providing our Muslim refugee neighbors with the Word of God is indispensable as they continue to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

When people from all nations read the Bible in their own language, it shows that God truly is the God of "all tribes and peoples and languages" (Rev. 7:9) and that He sent His Son to save every one of us, no matter our ethnic heritage.

Please look in the mail for a special letter in November with more details about the Arabic Bible and how you can help us engage the world around us in the Word of Christ. DOW needs your support in obtaining these Scriptures because,

"How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?"

- Romans 10:14

Please help us buy Arabic Bibles!

*We invite you to contribute to this effort
and to keep us in your prayers.*

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Engaging Muslims Through Christian Art

Last month DOW had a special guest at the Wednesday Arabic Bible study. Paula Waheed is a Christian artist and iconographer from Egypt who recently moved to Dallas. Hisham Batar, director of DOW's Refugee Service Center director, has known Mr. Waheed for 20 years and invited him to the Wednesday Bible study.

Thanks to his God-given talent, Mr. Waheed was able to communicate Jesus and His crucifixion to our Muslim neighbors. Though Muslims



believe in the miracle virgin birth of Jesus, they deny His death by crucifixion (Sura 4:157; Al Nisa 3:57). Through a portrayal of Jesus as a baby with nail marks in his feet (see picture below), Mr. Waheed was able to communicate that Jesus was born to die (John 12:32). Our Muslim neighbors marveled at seeing and hearing the Word of Christ and Him crucified. They saw it with their eyes and they heard it in the Word.

See more of Paula Waheed's work at his website:
www.paulawaheed.com

Or email him at paulawissa@gmail.com for more information.



(Above) Baby Jesus with Mary

(Above) Pastor Karim with Paula Waheed



(Above) A sword and pigeon on a scale in the hand of a soldier, with the scale tipped in favor of the pigeon.

In the mind of the Muslim, the sword (violence) is mightier than peace. In response to this very thought, which was expressed by one of our refugee neighbors during the Bible study, Mr. Waheed kindly and humbly clarified, "Even though the sword is mightier, peace reigns." Christ came to bring peace and that's what a mighty soldier does. Peace is mightier than the sword.

It is true that Jesus said, "*I have not come to bring peace, but a sword*" (Matt. 10:34). His mother Mary was told, "*A sword will pierce your soul also...*" (Luke 2:35). Christian art communicates and speaks to each person in different ways. The sword cut Jesus, as it was He who came to die. Jesus came to bring us peace and it cost Him His life.



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